

## END THE ETHNIC VIOLENCE IN TIGRAY, ETHIOPIA



Since November 4th 2020, thousands of innocent men, women and children have been raped, killed and starved by their own federal government in the Tigray region of Northern Ethiopia based solely on their ethnicity and the crisis is growing worse by the day. We must act to prevent further atrocities.

### Background

Prime Minister Abiy Ahmed assumed office in 2018 under a coalition agreement between four regional political parties that included the Tigray People's Liberation Front (TPLF). Ethiopia had long suffered from both internal ethnic rivalries and a 20-year conflict with neighboring Eritrea. Ahmed came to power under the promise of ending these various conflicts, and was awarded the Nobel Peace Prize in 2019 for "making peace" with Eritrea.

Sadly, instead of using peace with Eritrea as a springboard to resolve Ethiopia's internal ethnic divisions, Ahmed used calm on Ethiopia's Northern border as cover to systematically oust TPLF supporters from government positions, ultimately commencing a military offensive against the TPLF in the Tigray region. In the process, Ethiopian forces have turned their fire on ethnic Tigray civilians, blocking food and medicine from reaching the affected population, and blacking out power and communications in the region.

### The Current Crisis

The conflict in Tigray has now become a full-blown humanitarian crisis:

- More than **150,000** civilians have been Killed.
- More than **62,500** civilians in external refugee camps.
- More than **4.5 million** people (over 2 million children) without food in a region of 7 million people. People have already died from starvation.
- More than **2.5 million** internally displaced civilians.

<https://tigrayactioncommittee.com>

- Thousands of women and children have been raped, with wide spread allegations of human trafficking spreading throughout the region. Rape is being used by the Ethiopian government as a weapon of war.
- **80%** of Hospitals and Clinics looted and destroyed.
- **75%** of Schools and Universities looted and destroyed.

#### Action Needed

More must be done to prevent further atrocities. The greatest need for the people of Tigray is access to food and water. Although humanitarian corridors have started opening, food aid is being looted, diverted and destroyed.

- The United States should apply existing sanctions authority against Ahmed's government under the Global Magnitsky Human Rights Accountability Act until aid is allowed to Tigray.
- Now that congress has passed Res.97 they should label these on going atrocities a genocide.
- Now that multiple countries, including the USA, have called for a ceasefire it is time for the United States to take action and put an end to the human rights violations being committed against Tigray's civilians.

We also call on the US to actively support an inclusive, intra-Ethiopian dialogue on democratic reforms, elections, ethnic violence, and accountability for serious human rights abuses.

We now need the international community to act on their concerns and make an impactful effort in stopping the Tigray Genocide.

#### How **YOU** can help:

Please help us spread the word! Stand with us against these atrocities with your voice; tweeting, posting, emailing/phoning your local legislators, and constantly talking about what is happening in Tigray. More action items can be found here:

<https://tigrayactioncommittee.com/take-action-now>

Use the following hashtags: #standwithtigray #tigraygenocide #defundtigraygenocide #tigraycantwait #allowaccesstotigray

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